

**From:** Kirt Thiesmeyer  
**To:** Microsoft ATR  
**Date:** 1/24/02 3:22pm  
**Subject:** Microsoft Settlement

Sirs:

I am opposed to the settlement, or anything else that permits MS to return to business as usual. They are so big and so powerful that they are able to throw corporate responsibility out the window. They make a terrific product, Windows. They deserve their market share because of the excellence of the product. BUT their attempts to dominate other markets by tying Windows use to other products is despicable, highly anti-competitive and destructive of American enterprise. Microsoft is too glib about being the public's friend and about donating software in huge amounts (suggested "retail") when it costs them almost nothing, for the free publicity. I think the government should see through these shams.

I would like to see a conditional settlement that puts them on probation, subject to a review in five and ten years to see if MS is participating in healthy competition or still mis-using their monopoly power. Anything less, given their money, power and creative genius, is going to result in a few shifts of emphasis and then business as usual -- which means driving out other innovators. That should not be allowed.

Kirt Thiesmeyer  
Glendale, CA